

are to be found in all quarters—in Africa, in Australia and in the broad Dominion of Canada. It is evidence of the warm sympathy that exists between the Sovereign of those realms and her subjects, and, a proof of her benign sway, that in the 55 years she has ruled, she has year by year grown in the affections of the people. I am glad to note that the dispute arising out of the sovereignty of Behring Sea is to be adjusted on a pacific basis. I must congratulate the hon. leader of the Government on the course that is being now followed, and it is rather in marked contrast to the proposal and the sentiments that were expressed two years ago when attention was called to the subject in the Speech from the Throne—that the feeling was that we were to assert our sovereignty over that sea, that the pretensions of the United States would not for a moment bear criticism, that England was to be invoked to cause the United States to make an apology for their seizure of several vessels engaged in the sealing trade. The language on that occasion is in marked contrast, I say, to the language in the Speech from the Throne to-day. I am reading now from the Speech of 1890 :

“ We receive with a full sense of its importance the announcement that in consequence of the repeated seizures by cruisers of the United States navy of Canadian vessels while employed in the capture of seals in that part of the Northern Pacific Ocean known as Behring Sea, Your Excellency's Government has strongly represented to Her Majesty's Ministers the necessity of protecting our shipping while engaged in their lawful calling, as well as guarding against the assumption by any nation of exclusive proprietary rights in those waters.”

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—To-day we find Great Britain did not take quite that view of it. Great Britain fell in with the view of the United States, and was not disposed to quarrel over a minor question of that kind. I hope the dispute between the two countries will be settled in such a way as, at all events, will not detract from the dignity of the Empire of which we claim to be a part. I have no doubt it will result in a joint arrangement by which those two great powers, and perhaps a third or a fourth, may be entrusted with the management of the seals and their propagation in Behring Sea. The next paragraph of the Address has reference to a discussion on the exten-

sion of trade between the United States and Canada. I am sorry to see that that is all we are treated to on that particular question. We are not told what was the result of the meeting at Washington the other day with reference to the extension of our trade. The policy of the past Administration, at all events, was not one that added very much to the dignity of the country. It will be remembered that in December, 1890, a despatch was published, addressed to Lord Knutsford, intimating that Canada and the United States were to enter into a discussion with reference to the extension of trade between the two countries, and some other minor questions, and the announcement was made that that Parliament was not equal to dealing with the question, and an appeal was made to the people, under a pretence that this question with reference to the extension of trade was to be immediately taken up. We all remember the fiasco of March last and that the proposed meeting in October did not take place. We do not know what happened the other day at Washington, because the Ministers have not advised us. They simply state that something did occur with reference to the extension of trade between the two countries, but the Speech is perfectly silent as to what the result was. It is quite true that an amicable understanding was arrived at respecting the steps to be taken for the establishment of the boundary of Alaska. It was not necessary to go to Washington to discuss that. The question has been discussed in despatches for twenty years. There was no dispute as to the boundary of Alaska.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—My hon. friend says “hear, hear.” It was settled in the treaty of 1825. The line was defined, but not marked out. There is no doubt a dispute as to where it goes. It commences at Portland channel and extends along the summit of the mountains, where those mountains do not extend more than 10 marine leagues inwards, and if they are more than 10 marine leagues, then 10 leagues is the limit to a certain meridian, and from that point it is a straight line to the frozen ocean. That is practically the position of it, and the only reason that it was not settled twenty years ago was that the expense was too heavy. The United States at one time